

Constraining the Selectron Mass in the Process $e^- + \gamma \longrightarrow \tilde{\chi}_1^0 + \tilde{e}_{L/R}^- \longrightarrow e^- \tilde{\chi}_1^0 \tilde{\chi}_1^0$ *

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With the process $e^- \gamma \rightarrow \tilde{\chi}_1^0 \tilde{e}_{L/R}^- \rightarrow e^- \tilde{\chi}_1^0 \tilde{\chi}_1^0$ it is possible to constrain selectron masses above the kinematical limit of the pair production process in e^+e^- colliders. We investigate these mass ranges and discuss the possibility to test the renormalization group equations for the selectron masses.

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1. Introduction

The electron-photon collision mode of an e^+e^- linear collider [1] provides us with the possibility to produce single selectrons in association with the lightest supersymmetric particle (LSP), which is assumed to be the lightest neutralino $\tilde{\chi}_1^0$. Thus selectrons can be produced with masses beyond the kinematical range for pair production at an e^+e^- linear collider. Also the production mechanism (electron exchange in the s-channel and selectron exchange in the t-channel) for associated selectron-neutralino production is simpler than that for selectron pair production in e^+e^- collisions. Assuming a common scalar mass m_0 at the unification point the masses of the selectrons are related to the MSSM parameters $\tan\beta$ and M_2 , the $SU(2)$ gaugino mass parameter, by renormalization group equations [2]. In the MSSM quite generally the right selectron \tilde{e}_R is lighter than the left selectron \tilde{e}_L . In extended SUSY models, however, \tilde{e}_R could be heavier than \tilde{e}_L .

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[3]. We study in this paper the process $e^- \gamma \longrightarrow \tilde{\chi}_1^0 \tilde{e}_{L/R}^- \longrightarrow e^- \tilde{\chi}_1^0 \tilde{\chi}_1^0$ with polarized beams. Since the cross section and the forward-backward asymmetry of the decay electron depend sensitively on the selectron masses this process is suitable for testing the renormalization group relation between $m_{\tilde{e}_R}$ and $m_{\tilde{e}_L}$.

2. Cross Section and Forward-Backward Asymmetry

The associated production of selectrons and the LSP proceeds via e^- exchange in the s-channel and $\tilde{e}_{L/R}$ exchange in the t-channel. In the narrow width approximation the total cross section $\sigma_{e\gamma}^{L/R}$ for the combined process of $\tilde{e}_{L/R}^- \tilde{\chi}_1^0$ production and the subsequent decay $\tilde{e}_{L/R}^- \longrightarrow e^- \tilde{\chi}_1^0$ factorizes into the production cross section σ_P and the leptonic branching ratio:

$$\sigma_{e\gamma}^{L/R} = \sigma_P(s_{e\gamma}) \cdot BR\left(\tilde{e}_{L/R}^- \longrightarrow e^- \tilde{\chi}_1^0\right) \quad (1)$$

The measured cross section $\sigma_{ee}^{L/R}$ in the e^+e^- cms is obtained by folding $\sigma_{e\gamma}^{L/R}$ with the energy spectrum $P(y)$ of the Compton backscattered laser beam taking into account the mean helicity of the photon beam [4]:

$$\sigma_{ee}^{L/R} = \int dy P(y) d\hat{\sigma}_{e\gamma}^{L/R}(s_{e\gamma} = y s_{ee}) \quad (2)$$

$$\hat{\sigma}_{e\gamma}^{L/R} = \sigma_{e\gamma}^{L/R} (1 + \lambda(y) A_c) \quad (3)$$

A_c is the circular photon asymmetry and $y = E_\gamma/E_e$ is the ratio of the photon energy and the energy of the converted electron beam. The energy spectrum $P(y)$ and the mean helicity $\lambda(y)$ of the high energy photon beam sensitively depend on the polarizations λ_L of the laser beam and λ_k of the converted electron beam. Beyond the cross section $\sigma_{ee} = \sigma_{ee}^L + \sigma_{ee}^R$, we study the forward-backward asymmetry of the decay electrons:

$$A_{FB} = \frac{\sigma_{ee}^F - \sigma_{ee}^B}{\sigma_{ee}^F + \sigma_{ee}^B} \quad (4)$$

The forward direction is defined by the electron beam.

Apart from the kinematics the selectron masses enter the cross sections and the forward-backward asymmetries explicitly via the selectron propagator in the t-channel. Assuming a common scalar mass m_0 at the unification point the masses of the selectrons are related to the MSSM parameters $\tan\beta$ and the gaugino mass parameter M_2 by renormalization group equations [2]:

$$m_{\tilde{e}_R}^2 = m_e^2 + m_0^2 + 0.23M_2^2 - m_Z^2 \cos 2\beta \sin^2 \theta_W \quad (5)$$

$$m_{\tilde{e}_L}^2 = m_e^2 + m_0^2 + 0.79M_2^2 + m_Z^2 \cos 2\beta \left(-0.5 + \sin^2 \theta_W \right) \quad (6)$$

In the MSSM quite generally the right selectron \tilde{e}_R is lighter than the left selectron \tilde{e}_L . In extended SUSY models these relations are changed as a consequence of additional D-terms in the scalar potential and the right selectron may be heavier than the left selectron.

In chapter 3 we study the dependence of the cross section σ_{ee} and the forward-backward asymmetry A_{FB} on $m_{\tilde{e}_R}$ and $m_{\tilde{e}_L}$. We shall see that this process is useful for testing the GUT-relations eqs. (5), (6).

3. Numerical Results

We present numerical results for the MSSM parameters $M_2 = 152$ GeV, $M_1 = 78.7$ GeV, $\mu = 316$ GeV and $\tan \beta = 3$ for the cms-energy $\sqrt{s_{ee}} = 500$ GeV. The LSP is gaugino-like with $m_{\tilde{\chi}_1^0} = 71.9$ GeV. For $m_{\tilde{e}_R} = 127$ GeV and $m_{\tilde{e}_L} = 171$ GeV this corresponds to one ECFA/DESY reference scenario for the linear collider [5]. Fig. 1 shows the total cross section σ_{ee} and the forward-backward asymmetry A_{FB} for $\lambda_k = +1$ and $\lambda_L = -1$. This choice of λ_k and λ_L leads to a strongly marked high energetic peak in the energy spectrum $P(y)$ [4] and therefore to maximal cross sections. For the electron beam in the $e\gamma$ collision we choose in fig. 1a,b the polarization $P_e = 0.9$. Then due to $\sigma_{ee}^{L/R} \propto (1 \mp P_e)$ the cross section for \tilde{e}_R is enhanced whereas that for \tilde{e}_L is strongly suppressed so that σ_{ee} is nearly independent of $m_{\tilde{e}_L}$. The cross section for this polarization configuration (fig. 1a) allows to constrain $m_{\tilde{e}_R}$ up to 344 GeV. In a region around 200 GeV the dependence of σ_{ee} on $m_{\tilde{e}_R}$ is rather weak. In this case A_{FB} (fig. 1b) gives additional informations on the mass $m_{\tilde{e}_R}$. For $m_{\tilde{e}_R} > 344$ GeV the production of right selectrons becomes impossible and due to the suppression by the polarization factor $(1 - P_e)$ the cross section is rather small: $\sigma_{ee} = \sigma_{ee}^L \sim 2.5$ fb for $m_{\tilde{e}_L} = 100$ GeV. Then A_{FB} only depends on σ_{ee}^L and is independent of $m_{\tilde{e}_R}$ (see fig. 1b).

For figs. 1c and 1d we choose $P_e = -0.9$. Now the production and decay of left selectrons is no longer neglectible. Fig. 1c gives the cross sections for three different masses $m_{\tilde{e}_R} = 100$ GeV, 127 GeV, 200 GeV. In all three cases it should be possible to constrain $m_{\tilde{e}_L}$ up to 170 GeV. For masses larger than 170 GeV the dependence of σ_{ee} on $m_{\tilde{e}_L}$ is too weak so that one obtains only a lower limit on $m_{\tilde{e}_L}$. For large values of $m_{\tilde{e}_R}$ the measurement of the asymmetry A_{FB} (fig. 1d) could be helpful to extend this mass range to somewhat higher values.

If the renormalization group relations eqs. (5), (6) are satisfied then $m_{\tilde{e}_L}$ is larger than $m_{\tilde{e}_R}$, $m_{\tilde{e}_L}^2 - m_{\tilde{e}_R}^2 \sim 0.56M_2^2$. This relation can be tested with the total cross sections in figure 1a and 1c up to $m_{\tilde{e}_L} = 170$ GeV, com-

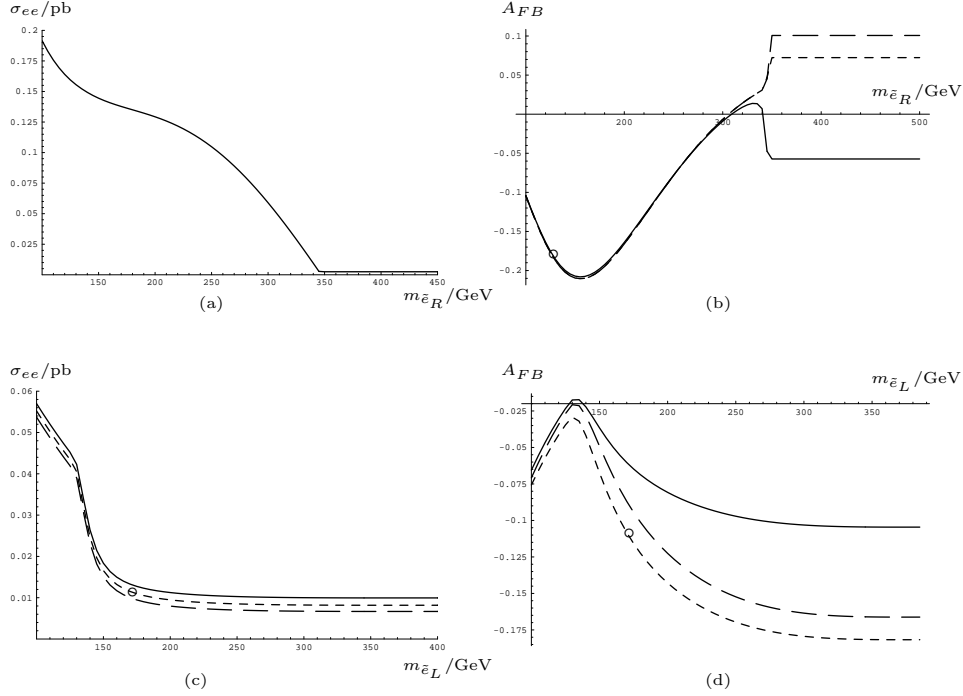


Fig. 1. Cross sections and forward-backward asymmetries for $\sqrt{s_{ee}} = 500$ GeV, $\lambda_k = +1$, $\lambda_L = -1$ (the values of the ECFA/DESY reference scenario are marked by small circles); (a) dependence of the total cross section σ_{ee} on $m_{\tilde{e}_R}$ for $P_e = 0.9$ and $m_{\tilde{e}_L} = 100$ GeV (nearly independent of $m_{\tilde{e}_L}$); (b) dependence of the asymmetry A_{FB} on $m_{\tilde{e}_R}$ for $P_e = 0.9$ ($m_{\tilde{e}_L} = 100$ GeV —, $m_{\tilde{e}_L} = 171$ GeV - - -, $m_{\tilde{e}_L} = 200$ GeV — — —); (c) dependence of the total cross section σ_{ee} on $m_{\tilde{e}_L}$ for $P_e = -0.9$ ($m_{\tilde{e}_R} = 100$ GeV —, $m_{\tilde{e}_R} = 127$ GeV - - -, $m_{\tilde{e}_R} = 200$ GeV — — —); (d) dependence of the asymmetry A_{FB} on $m_{\tilde{e}_L}$ for $P_e = -0.9$ ($m_{\tilde{e}_R} = 100$ GeV —, $m_{\tilde{e}_R} = 127$ GeV - - -, $m_{\tilde{e}_R} = 200$ GeV — — —)

plementary to the measurements at an e^+e^- -collider. Fig. 1d shows that for higher masses of \tilde{e}_R the asymmetry could allow a test of the renormalization group relations, eqs. (5),(6).

4. Conclusion

With a suitable choice of beam polarizations it is possible to constrain $m_{\tilde{e}_R}$ up to 344 GeV and $m_{\tilde{e}_L}$ up to 170 GeV in the process $e^-\gamma \rightarrow \tilde{\chi}_1^0 \tilde{e}_{L/R}^- \rightarrow e^-\tilde{\chi}_1^0 \tilde{\chi}_1^0$ from a measurement of the total cross sections. The forward-backward asymmetry A_{FB} gives additional information on these masses. Especially one could measure masses $m_{\tilde{e}_L} > 170$ GeV if $m_{\tilde{e}_R}$ is

high enough. The cross sections and the forward-backward asymmetries allow to test the equations for the selectron masses complementary to an e^+e^- -collider.

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